

H. Forth

1 December 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Gerry Elliott, Staff Assistant to
Representative Donald M. Fraser (D., Minn.)

1. Gerry Elliott called and asked if at least Fraser and perhaps several other members could get a briefing from the Agency on Cambodia tomorrow afternoon. He said the Foreign Affairs Committee was holding hearings on the Cambodian aid legislation but Fraser feels that he doesn't really know what is going on.
2. Elliott said Fraser had suggested to Chairman Morgan that he have Agency witnesses brief the Committee, but the Chairman was not disposed to do so. It was not clear whether Elliott's reference to other members referred to members of the Foreign Affairs Committee or members of the House.
3. I called Boyd Crawford and Roy Bullock, of the Foreign Affairs Committee staff, and advised them of Elliott's call. They told me that nothing had been said at the hearings about having the Agency appear, but went on to say that Fraser was in effect filibustering the Committee's hearings and had expressed general dissatisfaction with them. He has also appealed to the House leadership to prolong these Cambodian hearings. They added that Fraser was a member of the Democratic Study Group and had arranged for briefings of that group on the side.
4. I told Bullock that we appreciated the position Chairman Morgan had taken about calling the Agency and added we did not want to put pressure on him, but would probably want to turn Fraser off (as we have done several times in the past) by indicating that we normally do not brief individual members in cases of this sort, but would give consideration to a request from Chairman Morgan if he desired our presence before the Foreign Affairs Committee. Bullock indicated this would cause them no problems and said he would alert Chairman Morgan to my call.

5. I told Bullock that if there were any further developments on this I would keep him informed.

6. I called Elliott back and told him I would not be able to get his request to the Director's attention until tomorrow morning, but I assumed the Director's position would be the same as it had been in the past, i. e., that he would be willing to consider a request from Chairman Morgan if the Chairman wanted him to appear before the Committee, but is unwilling to provide such briefings outside of the Committee. Elliott seemed to expect this, but said he would await my call in the morning.

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Deputy Legislative Counsel